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## **HCC candidate name:** *Siggi Henry*

Please type in the space below each question, and use as much space as you require for each answer.

Please email your responses back to <u>info@sustainablewaikato.org.nz</u> not later than **Monday, September 5**<sup>th</sup> **2016**.

I would just like to make clear that I don't just give lip service to sustainability. We built our own house out of straw bales. We have a solar panel for the hot water and 8 solar panels for electricity. We have also got our own water tank and we are growing many vegetables and fruit in our garden.

- 1. Have you personally been involved in any group, organisation or activities that relate to sustainability? Please give details and outcomes. Yes in the area of sustainability of the human kind. I run a charitable trust called Parents Place for pregnancy, childbirth and early parenting to educate parents on how to have and raise healthy children.
- 2. Please rank, in order of (1) to (7), what you consider to be the most pressing needs for sustainability today, (1) being the most pressing and (7) the least. Please also add one of your own ideas.

Adapting to the impacts of climate change Rank: **6** if we do all the others the

impacts on climate change will be noticable I believe

Reducing our contribution to climate change

Sustainable economic growth

Sustainable transport options

Rank: 4

Sustainable urban design

Rank: 2

Water quality in our rivers and lakes Rank: 1 If we don't have clean water we

cannot function as a human race

Other (enter here): Rank:

You may comment on your ranking if you wish:

3. In your view, what is the most effective thing Council could do to improve wellbeing for those of lower socioeconomic status in our city? Creating healthy homes, eg double

glazing and insulation. And also encouraging and helping them how to grow their own food.

- 4. What do you see as future priorities for transport in Hamilton City and what benefits do you believe these changes will bring? An even better transport system and more options for bike lanes. Getting people cheaply from A to B will help with getting jobs
- 5. What sustainable water management strategies do you think Council should implement? Every new house should have their own water tank. And every existing house could be retrofitted with a water tank. This could be combined with a rates reduction.
- 6. Do you see the Council as having responsibility towards managing native biodiversity within the city? If yes, what policies would you like to see in place to support this? If no, please explain. Yes I believe so. We have many wonderful gullies that are managed by the council but I think we can do better.
- 7. What strategies do you think Council should employ to minimise the City's waste? More education on waste separation. Maybe like in Germany have special bins for green waste in every street. Encourage recycling and composting. Get rid of plastic bags in supermarkets.
- 8. How can Hamilton celebrate cultural diversity while helping to strengthen cross cultural ties? It starts with Leadership. Employing many different cultures in City Hall for a starter. HCC has to be the role model for what they want to see happening in the city.
- 9. Do you think Council has a role in supporting businesses, schools, families and individuals to make more sustainable choices? If no, why not and if yes what ideas do you have to support this? Yes I believe giving rates incentives for people who use less waste and have their own water tanks will encourage all sectors of people to make more sustainable choices.
- 10. Do you think Council has a responsibility to have policies to mitigate climate change and manage its impacts? Could you please give some examples? Absolutely. It comes back to role modelling. Why are there no solar panels on the council buildings. How about electric cars. So many ways Council could be more responsible about the climate change.
- 11. Suppose that your Council is considering a proposal for economic development. The development would increase regional GDP and create a significant number of jobs. It would also add significant pollution to waterways and further degrade their ecosystems. Would you support the proposal or not? What is your reasoning? I do not think I can support that. Obviously we need to live in a healthy environment and if any proposal for this kind of economic development would be considered I would strongly advocate

to look at ways to stop the pollution to the waterways and the degradation of the ecosystem. There are always answers, sometimes we are just too shortsighted.